Republic of the Philippines
Tacloban City
City Mayor's Office

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2020-03-016
series of 2020

AN EXECUTIVE ORDER FOR THE STRICT IMPLEMENTATION OF APPROPRIATE RESPONSES AND MEASURES TO CONTAIN/PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 IN TACLOBAN CITY

WHEREAS, it is a declared policy of the State to uphold the people's constitutional rights to life, health, safety, and property and to promote the general welfare of its people at all times;

WHEREAS, on March 08, 2020, the President of the Republic of the Philippines issued Proclamation No. 922, declaring a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines due to COVID-19 and the confirmation by the Secretary of Health of local transmissions in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, under the said proclamation, the outbreak of COVID-19 constitutes an emergency that threatens national security which requires a whole-of-government response aligned with the Four-door Framework for COVID-19 of the Department of Health (DOH), and the efforts of all concerned government agencies and the Local Government Units (LGUs);

WHEREAS, it is imperative for the Local Government of Tacloban to exercise the powers expressly granted, those necessarily implied therefrom, as well as powers necessary, appropriate, or incidental for the promotion of the general welfare, and the protection of the right of the people to health;

NOW THEREFORE, I, ALFRED S. ROMUALDEZ, City Mayor of Tacloban City, Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the strict implementation of critical, urgent and appropriate responses and measures to contain/prevent the spread of COVID-19, mitigate its effects and impact to the community, and curtail/eliminate the COVID-19 threat, to wit:

Section 1. Registration - As a precautionary measure and in anticipation of any development that may arise out of the Public Health Emergency, all persons who intend to or has entered Tacloban City starting from March 9, 2020, shall automatically be considered as Persons Under Monitoring (PUM), and shall be required by the City Government, through the City Health Office, to:

Fill-out all the forms provided by the City Government which are necessary for contact tracing;

Register at the Barangay Health Emergency Response Team (BHERT) located in the Barangay where the person resides, immediately upon entry to Tacloban City;

a. Comply with all the directives of the health authorities pertaining to quarantine procedures and other preventive or precautionary measures, as may be warranted;

b. Report observed symptoms to the following HOTLINES: 0920900911 (Smart) / 09778080911 (Globe) / 888-0911 (Landline).

Section 2. Mandatory Reporting - Insofar as applicable, the provisions of REPUBLIC ACT No. 11332, otherwise known as the "Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health Concern Act," shall be strictly observed, particularly:

a. The City Health Office is mandated to implement a mandatory reporting procedure of COVID-19 cases in Tacloban City;

c. The City Health Office shall establish and maintain functional disease surveillance and response systems, which include coordination mechanisms, implementation protocols for reporting and response, measures for data security and confidentiality, and procedures and provision to ensure safety of personnel conducting disease surveillance and response activities;

d. All public and private physicians, allied medical personnel, professional societies, hospitals, clinics, health facilities, laboratories, institutions, workplaces, schools, prisons, ports, airports, establishments, communities, other government agencies, and NGOs, are required to accurately and immediately report COVID-19 suspected and confirmed cases, to the City Health Office, through the following **HOTLINES: 0920900911 (Smart) / 09778080911 (Globe) / 888-0911 (Landline).**

Section 3. Regulation of Activities and Business Operations - Upon effectivity of this Executive Oder, and until the public health emergency is lifted, the following activities, events, and operations are restricted as follows:

a. All forms of assemblies, social gatherings, concerts, public events, and parties are temporarily prohibited. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the City Government may hold conferences, seminars, or public sessions, that are deemed essential to the general welfare of the constituents.

e. The same prohibition is imposed on business establishments, amusement centers, entertainment facilities, and similar places that are considered to have high-risk of COVID-19 transmission or spread, such as, but not limited to:

i. Cockpits/cockfighting coliseums;
ii. BINGO and similar gaming establishments;
iii. Movie Theaters;
iv. Internet cafés;
v. Nightclubs, Bars, Beer houses, and similar establishments;
vi. Public swimming pools, beaches, and sauna baths;
vii. Spa and massage parlors;
viii. Other establishments that do not observe proper hygiene and sanitation, as directed by health advisories.

To prevent the spread of COVID-19 and/or mitigate its effects and impact to the constituents, the Business Permits and Licenses Division in cooperation with the City Health Office, and all concerned offices or agencies, are hereby authorized to cause the suspension of operations and temporarily close the above-enumerated business establishments and those that may be found in violation of health advisories or orders from the duly constituted authorities.

f. Restaurants, food/snack houses, coffee shops, cafés, and diners shall only accept drive-thru and take out orders.

g. The selling, buying, taking, or consumption of liquor within the City of Tacloban shall be temporarily prohibited from March 15, 2020 to March 31, 2020.

Section 4. Travel Restrictions - All persons entering into Tacloban City are required to subject themselves and undergo registration, testing and evaluation of symptoms of COVID-19 infection. For this purpose, the City Health Office, in coordination with the Traffic Operations, Management, Enforcement and Control Office (TOMECO), and the Tacloban City Police Office (TCPO) shall setup the necessary stations or facilities at all entry points, and implement appropriate procedures. Persons who fail to comply or cooperate shall be denied entry.

Section 5. Penalties - The public is enjoined to comply with this Executive Order, and other relevant issuances in order that the government can effectively and efficiently undertake critical, urgent and appropriate responses and measures to curtail and eliminate the COVID-19 threat. Otherwise, the City Government of Tacloban, in coordination with law enforcement agencies, can enforce the provisions of R.A. 11332, that provide a penalty of a fine of not less than Twenty thousand pesos (₱20,000.00) but not more than Fifty thousand pesos (₱50,000.00) or imprisonment of not less than one (1) month but not more than six (6) months, or both such fine and imprisonment, without prejudice to other penalties provided by law; on the ground of non-cooperation of persons and entities that should report and/or respond to COVID-19 suspected and confirmed cases.

Further, if the offense is committed by a public or private health facility, institution, agency, corporation, school, or other juridical entity duly organized in accordance with law, the chief executive officer, president, general manager, or such other officer in charge shall be held liable. In addition, the business permit and license to operate of the concerned facility, institution, agency, corporation, school, or legal entity shall be cancelled.

Section 6. Effectivity - This Order shall be effective immediately, and shall be in full force and effect while the Public Health Emergency subsists.

SO ORDERED, this 15th day of March 2020, in the City of Tacloban, Philippines.

ALFRED S. ROMUALDEZ
City Mayor, Tacloban City